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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.								
10/517,180	09/19/2005	Isabel Plata Andres	P16940-US1	5698								
27045 ERICSSON INC. 6300 LEGACY DRIVE M/S EVR 1-C-11 PLANO, TX 75024	7590 01/21/2009		<div>EXAMINER</div> <div>PATIL, ASHOKKUMAR B</div> <table border="1"><thead><tr><th>ART UNIT</th><th>PAPER NUMBER</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td colspan="2">2456</td></tr></tbody></table> <table border="1"><thead><tr><th>MAIL DATE</th><th>DELIVERY MODE</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>01/21/2009</td><td>PAPER</td></tr></tbody></table>		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	2456		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	01/21/2009	PAPER
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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

### Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/517,180

**Applicant(s)**

PLATA ANDRES ET AL.

**Examiner**

ASHOK B. PATEL

**Art Unit**

2456

**Period for Reply** -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 October 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SF/ICE)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 1-8 are subject to examination.

***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

2. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 10/24/2008 has been entered.

***Response to Arguments***

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1-3 and 5-7 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claim 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being Unpatentable over Applicant Admitted Prior Art (hereinafter AAPA) in view of Meier et al. (hereinafter Meier) (US 2001/0027478 A1)

**Referring to claim 1,**

AAPA teaches a method for routing a service request in a telecommunication system towards a destination user (page 6, para. [0012]), the method comprising the steps of:

- a) storing a collection of identifiers related to a first identifier assigned to said user (page 6, para. [0011]);
  - b) receiving a service request that comprises said first identifier (page 6, para. [0011];
  - c) obtaining a plurality of identifiers among said collection of identifiers, the identifiers all equally usable for routing said service request (page 6, para. [0011];
  - d) selecting a second identifier among said plurality of identifiers (page 6, para. [0012]);
- and
- e) routing said service request according to said selected second identifier (page 6, para. [0012]);

AAPA fails to teach the method characterized in that:

at least one identifier among said plurality of identifiers stored in step a) has a format that comprises a user-name portion and a domain-name portion, wherein the user-name portion contains said first identifier; and

in step d) said second identifier is selected having a format comprising a user-name portion and a domain-name portion, wherein said user-name portion contains said first identifier.

Meier teaches the method characterized in that:

at least one identifier among said plurality of identifiers stored in step a) has a format that comprises a user-name portion and a domain-name portion, wherein the

user-name portion contains said first identifier ( para. [[0054] Instead of using a numeric identifier for the country code, the International Standard two letter country code could be used, so that the code for John Smith would be:

[0055] NZ-4-569-3578-JOHS for John Smith

[0056] Email System

[0057] By allocating codes to individuals, it is possible to provide each individual with a "virtual" email address. For example if the system operator is a ISP, and allocates accounts to the various individuals giving each individual an email address based on their individual codes. In the case of John Smith the email would be 64-4-569-3578-johs@"ISPNAME"-.com.

[0058] The applicant proposes to use an ISP name such as "fleximail.com" so that the address for John Smith would be 64-4-569-3578-johs@fleximail.- com.

[0059] (Note that dashes are not necessary--they are shown here to aid in dissecting the component parts of the address).

**Note: a "virtual" email address 64-4-569-3578-johs@fleximail.- com is at least one identifier.)**

Additionally Meier teaches at para. [0060] Users could have the choice of accessing that email address directly, or using it as a virtual email address, together with an appropriate forwarding system so that emails can be forwarded to the email account they prefer to use , or for those customers who do not use email any messages received at that email address could be forwarded to the customers in whatever way they chose.

Para. [0004] This situation is compounded by the fact that with a number of different Internet providers (ISPs) people frequently change their ISP and hence their email address, and this makes it difficult to maintain contact with friends or business acquaintances, unless the recipient makes use of a forwarding service. Many people do not do this.

[0020] Preferably each record contains instructions concerning the forwarding of an email received at that defined email address, to another email address designated by the account holder.

[1752] It is a particular advantage of this invention that by using a combination of a telephone number or a telephone number in combination with the representation of part or all of the subscribers name (or a combination of numbers and letters chosen by the subscriber perhaps a "vanity combination" or a combination based on the subscribers Business Name or Trade Mark), it is possible to distinguish between individuals at a particular address (where the address is represented by a telephone number), it makes it easier for the ISP to route the messages to a particular country and then to a particular individual.

[1753] As telephone number portability takes on, it is expected that most individuals in the world will be given a telephone number for life. In that case the media independent address can remain the same throughout their lives. The telephone number will in essence become part of the original family name even though individuals move away from home.

[1754] In those cases where telephone number portability has not been introduced to groups of subscribers, or indeed to countries, it is envisaged that the ISP using this invention will maintain a number of different addresses within its own database with appropriate forwarding systems, for individuals, allowing individuals to use either the originally allocated identification code, or if they wish the new code based on the new telephone number if they move house, or indeed to provide a forwarding service from one to the other, or to have a multiple of such identification codes pointing to the same individual. However it is expected that most individuals would prefer to use a single identification code and maintain that for life.

[1755] It is expected that these individuals may wish to maintain the identification code, and to use it for other purposes perhaps to link to their bank accounts or indeed to identify their primary bank account, or other account information stored for them by other agencies.

#### VARIATION

[1756] In the Advantages mention has been made of Internet service providers (ISPs) as the central point for determining how mail is to be delivered to a particular subscriber. The term ISP is simply a convenient acronym for an Internet based system on the assumption that some or all of the users will wish to send information by way of email.

The above stated teachings of Meier provide clear reasons to any person having ordinary skills in the art **for the following articulation:**

If "in fact that with a number of different Internet providers (ISPs) people frequently change their ISP and hence their email address, and this makes it difficult to maintain contact with friends or business acquaintances, unless the recipient makes use of a forwarding service" and "As telephone number portability takes on, it is expected that most individuals in the world will be given a telephone number for life. In that case the media independent address can remain the same throughout their lives.", then any person having ordinary skills in the art would "design" the second identifier having the same format as the "at least one identifier" such that when the people change the ISP and have the number portability for life, the second identifier will need to have just the domain-name portion changed because of the change in ISP and keep the "a user-name portion" same as their portable phone number for life. (keeping the first identifier as part of the user-name portion as part of the any other identifier comprising a user-name portion and a domain-name portion, will guarantee the unique routing identifier in the world even if they change a number of ISPs)

Thus any person having ordinary skills in the art would articulate " step d) said second identifier is selected having a format comprising a user-name portion and a domain-name portion, wherein said user-name portion contains said first identifier.

Thus, the manner of the routing of a service request in a telecommunication system towards a destination user was made part of the ordinary capabilities of one skilled in the art based upon the teaching of Meier based on the so called "portable email address". Accordingly, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been capable of applying this known technique in the same manner to the prior art as that of Meier and



the results would have been predictable to one of ordinary skill in the art, namely, one skilled in the art would have readily recognized that since "it is expected that most individuals in the world will be given a telephone number for life" and the fact that with a number of different Internet providers (ISPs) people frequently change their ISP and hence their email address, keeping the first identifier as part of the user-name portion as part of the any other identifier comprising a user-name portion and a domain-name portion, will guarantee the unique routing identifier in the world even if they change a number of ISPs.

**Referring to claim 2,**

AAPA teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the step c) further comprises the steps of: c1) sending a query to a database that contains said collection of identifiers related to said first identifier, said query comprising the content of the first identifier; c2) receiving a response to said query that comprises a plurality of identifiers among said collection of identifiers (para. [0011]).

**Referring to claim 3,**

AAPA teaches the method of claims 1 or 2, wherein said first identifier is a E.164 number and said second identifier is a Uniform Resource Locator for Session Initiation Protocol. (para. [0004]).

**Referring to claim 4,**

Keeping in mind the teachings of AAPA, AAPA fails to teach the method of claim 3, wherein said second identifier contains number portability information.

Meier teaches:

At para. [[0054] Instead of using a numeric identifier for the country code, the International Standard two letter country code could be used, so that the code for John Smith would be:

[0055] NZ-4-569-3578-JOHS for John Smith

[0056] Email System

[0057] By allocating codes to individuals, it is possible to provide each individual with a "virtual" email address. For example if the system operator is a ISP, and allocates accounts to the various individuals giving each individual an email address based on their individual codes. In the case of John Smith the email would be 64-4-569-3578-johs@"ISPNAME"-.com.

[0058] The applicant proposes to use an ISP name such as "fleximail.com" so that the address for John Smith would be 64-4-569-3578-johs@fleximail.- com.

Additionally Meier teaches at para. [0060] Users could have the choice of accessing that email address directly, or using it as a virtual email address, together with an appropriate forwarding system so that emails can be forwarded to the email account they prefer to use , or for those customers who do not use email any messages received at that email address could be forwarded to the customers in whatever way they chose.

Para. [0004] This situation is compounded by the fact that with a number of different Internet providers (ISPs) people frequently change their ISP and hence their email address, and this makes it difficult to maintain contact with friends or business

acquaintances, unless the recipient makes use of a forwarding service. Many people do not do this.

[0020] Preferably each record contains instructions concerning the forwarding of an email received at that defined email address, to another email address designated by the account holder.

[1752] It is a particular advantage of this invention that by using a combination of a telephone number or a telephone number in combination with the representation of part or all of the subscribers name (or a combination of numbers and letters chosen by the subscriber perhaps a "vanity combination" or a combination based on the subscribers Business Name or Trade Mark), it is possible to distinguish between individuals at a particular address (where the address is represented by a telephone number), it makes it easier for the ISP to route the messages to a particular country and then to a particular individual.

[1753] As telephone number portability takes on, it is expected that most individuals in the world will be given a telephone number for life. In that case the media independent address can remain the same throughout their lives. The telephone number will in essence become part of the original family name even though individuals move away from home.

[1754] In those cases where telephone number portability has not been introduced to groups of subscribers, or indeed to countries, it is envisaged that the ISP using this invention will maintain a number of different addresses within its own database with appropriate forwarding systems, for individuals, allowing individuals to

use either the originally allocated identification code, or if they wish the new code based on the new telephone number if they move house, or indeed to provide a forwarding service from one to the other, or to have a multiple of such identification codes pointing to the same individual. However it is expected that most individuals would prefer to use a single identification code and maintain that for life.

[1755] It is expected that these individuals may wish to maintain the identification code, and to use it for other purposes perhaps to link to their bank accounts or indeed to identify their primary bank account, or other account information stored for them by other agencies.

#### VARIATION

[1756] In the Advantages mention has been made of Internet service providers (ISPs) as the central point for determining how mail is to be delivered to a particular subscriber. The term ISP is simply a convenient acronym for an Internet based system on the assumption that some or all of the users will wish to send information by way of email.

The above stated teachings of Meier provide clear reasons to any person having ordinary skills in the art **for the following articulation:**

**If** "in fact that with a number of different Internet providers (ISPs) people frequently change their ISP and hence their email address, and this makes it difficult to maintain contact with friends or business acquaintances, unless the recipient makes use of a forwarding service" and **"As telephone number portability takes on, it is expected that most individuals in the world will be given a telephone number for life.** In

that case the media independent address can remain the same throughout their lives.”, then any person having ordinary skills in the art would “design” the second identifier having the same format as the “at least one identifier” such that when the people change the ISP and have the number portability for life, the second identifier will need to have just the domain-name portion changed because of the change in ISP and keep the “ a user-name portion” same as their portable phone number for life. (keeping the first identifier as part of the user-name portion as part of the any other identifier comprising a user-name portion and a domain-name portion, will guarantee the unique routing identifier in the world even if they change a number of ISPs) (wherein said second identifier contains number portability information.)

Thus any person having ordinary skills in the art would articulate “wherein said second identifier contains number portability information.”

Thus, the manner of the routing of a service request in a telecommunication system towards a destination user was made part of the ordinary capabilities of one skilled in the art based upon the teaching of Meier based on the so called “portable email address”. Accordingly, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been capable of applying this known technique in the same manner to the prior art as that of Meier and the results would have been predictable to one of ordinary skill in the art, namely, one skilled in the art would have readily recognized that since “it is expected that most individuals in the world will be given a telephone number for life” and the fact that with a number of different Internet providers (ISPs) people frequently change their ISP and hence their email address, keeping the first identifier as part of the user-name portion as

part of the any other identifier comprising a user-name portion and a domain-name portion, will guarantee the unique routing identifier in the world even if they change a number of ISPs.

**Referring to claim 5,**

Claim 5 is an apparatus that incorporates and implements the method of claim 1. Therefore, claim 5 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 1.

**Referring to claim 6,**

Claim 6 is a system that incorporates and implements the method of claim 1. Therefore, claim 6 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 1.

**Referring to claim 7,**

Claim 7 is a system that incorporates and implements the method of claim 3. Therefore, claim 7 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 3.

**Referring to claim 8,**

Claim 8 is a system that incorporates and implements the method of claim 4. Therefore, claim 8 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 4.

***Conclusion***

**Examiner's note:** Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings of the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant in preparing responses, to fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the

claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the Examiner.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ASHOK B. PATEL whose telephone number is (571)272-3972. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30 am-4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nathan A. Flynn can be reached on (571) 272-1915. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Ashok B. Patel/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2456